

Early Settlers. Founding Of Pocahontas

By SHIRLEY DONNELLY

Love her it been in my heart to tell you about Pocahontas County of West Virginia. This is one of West Virginia's 55 counties which is getting pretty well along in its



squire miles. If compared to the nearby Warde's 1945.3 square miles and stacked up next wall with Greenliver's 1922.2 square miles, these two being West Virginia's most extensive claims.

They named Pocahontas after the Indian princess of over Jamestown way.

I like to put two-and-two together sometimes and the recent visit of Queen Elizabeth II of England to Jamestown helped me do it. Pocahontas was the daughter of Chief Powhatan. One day in the year 1619 Capt. Samuel Argall was on a voyage up the Potomac when he heard of this attractive Indian princess. An Italian trader was given a copper kettle to induce her to leave the woods. She was delivered to the captain and was forced to be carried to Jamestown, then a struggling, lonely little settlement which was founded six years before. This was a plain case of kidnapping.

There was Jane-ho-ka one of the settlers was John Holte. He was single and became so smitten with the beauty and manners of the Indian girl that he turned on all his farm village and won her to himself to be his wife. When the church of England rites of marriage were performed in April, 1613 there was great pomp and splendor in the celebration that followed. This is the same girl who was reputed to have saved the life of Capt. John Smith when he was about to be strangled with savage hands, or worse by the effect of a snake bite. Pocahontas was allowed to show her off but Pocahontas was not too happy over it all. She was introduced to Queen Elizabeth. On preparing to return to her native land Virginia the 21-year-old Indian princess came down with small pox and died. They gave her the name of Pocahontas in part.

estimated in our lag county's names
and other names. One

FIRST WHITE MEN to settle in Buchanan County were Jacob Martin and Stephen Sewell. It was in 1778 that the two reached the mouth of Knappe Creek and erected a cabin on the banks of the Greenback River. Subsequently they fell out in an argument over religion and one of them moved into a different town.

Small's car moved some 40 miles and where officers killed him. He was in his car in the Big South Woods Park, which bears his name. Big South Mountain in Fayette County is the highest point on the Mountain Trail at S. 1000 ft. Small was killed in 1900.

Bliss Sweet and Martin settled at present day Maryland they established the original settlement on a small island in West Virginia.

These practitioners who formed *Shikishima* were made the mainstay of the Tōmei-kyō business by trade in silk, tea, minerals, and other things. Even the trading post was the headquarters of contacts the place eventually was given the name of *Shikishima-jō*. Over the years and the century, such an intense trade brought to Shikishima means it is in the area.

SECOND-BORN WHITE MEN

[illegible]

Greenbrier River rises in Putnam County and runs in a south-western direction, dividing the county in half. It and the Elk are the longest rivers entirely within the state. The Greenbrier flows into New River at Belmont in Summers County, 174 miles from its source. Andrew Lewis, son of John Lewis, is the man who gave Lewisburg its name. He was set for Governor at Mount Pleasant on Monday, Oct. 26, 1794, in the 40th

battle of the American Revolution

ANOTHER EARLY PIONEER

He was the first army settler at what was called the Little Lenoir. He was born near Winchester, Va., but migrated to Cumberland Valley to Maryland. There he got into a fight with another fellow and thought he was killed his antagonist. Result was he got the trail, counting himself a fugitive from justice.

One day he came to Little Level, in about the year 1760. While hunting he came upon the white footprints. Clarke and James Kenison, in fear of being caught, fled. From them McKee learned that the man he had thought was not dead, was now a fugitive everywhere. He went back west of the mountains with the Kiapans. There he married Martha Davis, a woman of Welsh ancestry, having been born in Wales in 1723.

They came back to Little Town and there McNeel built a log meeting house as a house of worship. It was called the White Pine Church, being one of the earliest churches west of the Alleghenies made the town oldest.

McNeel joined Andrew Lewis Army and fought in the Point Pleasant battle. While McNeel was away on the Point Pleasant campaign his infant child died. Alas for the widow's wretchedness. Mrs. John McNeel, nee Martha Davis, fashioned a crude coffin, dug a grave and buried her babe herself.

Hard by Hillsboro in Pocahontas is the quaint cemetery where Mr. and Mrs. John McNeel are buried. There, too, lie Charles and Edward Kennison and their wives and other heroes of the big Shawnee battle at Point Pleasant. One of God's days I plan to go to Hillsboro to roam a bit.

JOHN McNEEL'S settling Little Devils, trying himself to be fugitive from justice, recalls the Walter Kelly settled Cedar Grove at the mouth of Kelly's Creek. Kanawha County did the same thing. Rumor was he had killed a man in North Carolina and

Buchanan was enticed by the Pringle brothers who were army deserters from Fort Pitt. They offered him a place to trade and a chance to see his family. Buchanan was so moved by the offer that he decided to go. He was so moved that he decided to go.

By SHIRLEY DONNELLY

When, time and again, we all
are reminded, I was writing
about the first time at 20-
something County was sent out to
the State and back to the first
of hand-writing from the
past.

He was born near Baltimore on July 12, 1880. He was the son of Abram and Margaret Kelly. He had a grandson, John Michael, who is 2 years old.



in 1770. The young John Stow, then the first baronet, was one that was cited at the antislavery Council.

On Oct. 20, 1932, William Lloyd Wood and Margaret Jane Wood were married. She was the daughter of Joseph and Maria Wood. Seven children were born to Wood and Wood, about Margaret Jane Wood died Oct. 8, 1974. Buried in Sunset Chapel, 1974.

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BARKEN is the Download and
Franklin Andrew Renick. To
can and Pecanudas extraction

On the first of July, 1903, this man came to enter the Confederate Archives, submit a substitute. For releasing he started to hire a substitute in his stead. Not all of the field, you know. The cause to note the substitute was revealed.

Result of this emergency action of the Confederate government was that, in April, 1864, the 1st Kentucky Cavalry was organized. Renick had to go to war to prove himself. This is what Franklin Adams Renick found himself to do in one service, Company "E", 1st Kentucky Cavalry. So he served in the drivers of war craters through the Edge of battle in the Battle of Coldwater. He was wounded. But fate caught up with him and the real Franklin Adams Renick was captured as a prisoner of war on Sept. 9, 1864.

He was carried off to C. C. Camp, Ohio, where he was held until March 7, 1865. There was that the ravages of war and starvation compelled him to take the oath of allegiance. He released and sent home just a half dead. He saw much of corruption that obtained in actual prison. He used to tell his sons, Federal government and medicine that were never allowed to reach their destination. He saw how Federal officers were bribed into letting prisoners for a price, or have exchange, expended just 5

It was his opinion that the men starve and perish because was the best way of living out of the unfortunate were there confined by the Wash government. He was bitter as ever the whole thing, and would blame him.

The movie tells the story of a young boy who is born with a rare condition that makes him blind. He is born in a small town in the South and grows up in a family that is poor and uneducated. The movie is a powerful story of a boy who overcomes his blindness and becomes a successful writer. The movie is a great example of how a person can overcome their disabilities and achieve their dreams.

[illegible]

EVICK, THATCHERS, and ...

There's always had Egyptian
architecture and monuments in Africa.
Hawaii was a province of the
British Maritime Colonies in the 19th
century.

Harvey was born in Maryland, the youngest of seven children of a farmer. He was with Billy Clinton, Va., Governor, when he was killed in the wild duck on North Mountain, Va., he was a member of the U.S. Forest Service and was in the U.S. Army from 1918 to 1920. In 1920, he was the Mayor of Harrison, Tenn. He was in the Virginia legislature.

WHAT OF THE MINISTER

Presumably during the trial, V. Wells, as shown out with, Mafre would stand at death.

One I knew about was the George Preston Moore. His son says both born in Peacham and died in Iowa, where the tall grove, in near forest led him. Moore was twice married. His second wife was born in 1864 and her marriage ended was the day of her birth. He was then J. Gay. His wife was Elizabeth M. Power.

Respected Mr. M. was not a
gambler about. All his life
spent within a quarter of a mile
of where he was born. He did
take part in the Civil War but
not as quartermaster again.
Edray. He was chosen to
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ward Kennison and their wives and other heroes of the big Shawnee battle at Point Pleasant. One of God's days I plan to go to Hillsboro to roam a bit.

JOHN McNEEL'S settling Little Levels, fancying himself to be a fugitive from justice, recalls how Walter Kelly settled Cedar Grove at the mouth of Kelly's Creek in Kanawha County did the same thing. Rumor was he had killed a man in North Carolina and fled into the wilderness to get away.

Buckhannon was settled by the two Pringle brothers who were army deserters from Fort Pitt. It never pays to trace one's family back too goshawfully far, does it? More of Pocahontas, come tomorrow.

mouth of Knapps Creek and erected a cabin on the banks of the Greenbrier River. Subsequently they fell out in an argument over religion and one of them moved into a hollow tree.

Sewell later moved some 40 miles west where Indians killed him. His fame is kept alive in the Big Sewell Mountain range which bears his name. Big Sewell Mountain in Fayette County is the highest point on the Midland Trail (U. S. Route 60). Sewell was killed in September, 1776.

When Sewell and Marlin settled at present day Marlinton they established the oldest settlement on western waters in West Virginia.

When Pocahontas was formed Huntersville was made the county seat. Thither came hunters to trade pelts, sell ginseng, and other things. Since this trading post was the rendezvous of hunters the place naturally was given the name of Huntersville. Over 60 years ago the county seat of justice was transferred to Marlinton where it is to this day.

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...brary at Upson Downs is a copy
of Knauss' "Story of Camp Chase".
It bears the names of those who
died there—by the hundreds upon
hundreds of thousands, too.

EVEN DOCTORS of medicine
went to war in those days. One
such medicine man was Dr. Cy-
rus P. Bryan. Folks up around
Hillsboro will be able to recall the
stories their grandparents told
them about this man of mercy.
There's where he returned to
practice his profession in 1873. Dr.
Bryan was a graduate of the Jef-
ferson Medical College in the class
of 1855.

During the war Dr. Bryan
dropped his civilian practice and
served as a soldier alongside his
fellow Virginians. He was with the
Bath County, Va., Cavalry. He
acted as surgeon of the military
post at Warm Springs, Va., in the
fall and winter of 1862. From July
1, 1863, to April 5, 1865, he sat
in the House of Burgesses, the
lower house of the Virginia As-
sembly.

WHAT OF THE MINISTERS of
Pocahontas during the Civil War?
Well, to start out with, there just
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WHAT OF THE MINISTERS of Pocahontas during the Civil War? Well, to start out with, there just weren't many of them.

One I know about was the Rev. George Preston Moore. His parents were both born in Pocahontas but died in Iowa, where the tall corn grows, to hear Iowans tell it. Reverend Moore was twice married. His second wife was born June 30, 1844 and her marriage anniversary was the day of her birth, in 1865. She was Ruth J. Gay. His first wife was Elizabeth M. Poage.

Reverend Moore was not one to galivant about. All his life was spent within a quarter of a mile of where he was born. He did not take part in the Civil War but did act as quartermaster agent at Edray. He was chosen to many public offices by his fellow citizens of Pocahontas. Long was the postmaster at Edray and for some time he was justice of the peace.

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HARKEN to the thumbnail story
of Franklin Andrew Renick. This
man had Pocahontas connections.

On the first of July, 1862, this man
had to enter the Confederate Army
or submit a substitute. For some
reason he elected to hire a substi-
tute in his stead. Not all men
relish the field, you know. Then it
came to pass the substitute law
was repealed.

Result of this emergency action
of the Confederate government
was that, in April, 1864, this man
Renick had to go to war in person.
This it was that Franklin Andrew
Renick found himself two soldiers
in one service, Company "E", 14th
Virginia Cavalry. So he served un-
til the drums of war ceased to
throb and the flags of battle were
furled. But fate caught up with
him and the real Franklin Andrew
Renick was captured as a prisoner
of war on Sept. 9, 1864.

He was carted off to Camp
Chase, Ohio, where he was con-
fined until March 17, 1865. Then it
was that the ravages of disease
and starvation compelled him to
take the oath of allegiance. He was
released and sent home, just about
half dead. He saw much of the
corruption that obtained in that
awful prison. He used to tell how
he saw federal government food
and medicines that were never al-
lowed to reach their destination.
He saw how federal officers could
be bribed into letting prisoners
escape for a price, or have their
exchange expedited just for a
handful of silver.

It was his opinion that letting
the men starve and perish from
disease was the best way of get-
ting rid of the unfortunate wretches
there confined by the Washington
government. He was bitter as gaul
over the whole thing, and who
could blame him?

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Cornstalk at Point Pleasant on Monday, Oct. 10, 1774, in the first

battle of the American Revolution.

ANOTHER EARLY PIONEER

in Pocahontas was Col. John McNeel. He was the first actual settler at what was called the Little Levels. He was born near Winchester, Va., but migrated to Cumberland Valley in Maryland. There he got into a fight with another fellow and thought he had killed his antagonist. Result was he hit the trail, counting himself a fugitive from justice.

One day he came to Little Levels, in about the year 1765. While hunting he came upon two white frontiersmen, Charles and James Kennison, in search of a spot to settle. From them McNeel learned that the man he had fought was not dead, nor was he injured overly much. He went back east of the mountains with the Kennisons. There he married Martha Davis, a woman of Welsh ancestry, having been born in Wales in 1743.

They came back to Little Levels and there McNeel built a log meeting house as a house of worship. It was called the White Pole Church, being one of the earliest churches west of the Alleghanies; maybe the very oldest.

McNeel joined Andrew Lewis's Army and fought in the Point Pleasant battle. While McNeel was away on the Point Pleasant cam-

ter of Joseph and Mary. She was married. She was the mother of Joseph and Mary. Eleven children were born in the blest union, albeit Mary Beard died Oct. 6, 1833. She had been born Oct. 25, 1833.

In spite of the fact that the family when the town was founded in 1861, William McNeel felt honor bound to the state of Virginia where he was born. During the last of the Civil War he was of Co. "F" of the Cavalry. In return for his life in high places of honor, the citizens of Pocahontas elected McNeel in 1872 for a four year term. They sent him to the legislature first as a delegate and then as a state Senator. If his neighbors could not do one can fearlessly raised and sprayed dark. He was an honorable veteran when they took him from his labors.

HARKEN to the thought of Franklin Andrew. The man had Pocahontas

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first places of public worship on the Western Waters.

Just north of Millpoint is Stephens Hole. Here Stephen Sewell, one of the two first residents of Marlinton, wintered in a limestone cave—running water convenient—along in the 1750's. He went to Greenbrier only to lose his hair to the Indians, being murdered on Big Sewell, the mountain which bears his name to this day. My little effort to point a moral fell flat with the Ronceverte ladies as to how such was all one great lesson for Pocahontas people, never to wander from their own fireside, even if it is but a hole in the wall.

There is a local tradition that a paymaster of one Ohio regiment, in the excitement of the Battle of Droop Mountain, absconded with the monthly payroll of his regiment, and hid the money in Stephens Hole until he could come back and safely carry it away. I never could find out how the news leaked out. If that Yankee did hide the money far back in the hole, all I can say he was built

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Some years ago a most interesting and valuable history reading book came into my hands. In it is recorded something about a carpet-bag governor of a southern state during the reconstruction times; a bad actor, infamous, among other things, for having run off with a monthly payroll of the Ohio regiment for which he was the pay officer. Some of these times, through idle curiosity, I will try to check up to see if the local tale and record of the book can be connected.

Nearby Stephens Hole is the Bridger Mountain. The predominating peaks of Bridger are the Pinnacle and the Swago. Here in the Gap the Bridger boys, James and John, were waylaid and murdered by Indians in 1784. They were on their way from the Bridger home on Greenbrier River to the fort at Millpoint. There is controversy as to the exact year, but I still hold for 1784. I will write a chapter on it some week.

On up the Seneca Trail—the War-

just above the mouth of Swago.

On Droop Mountain is an interesting cranberry bog, with its sphagnum moss and interesting plants which like wet feet. The ladies did not care to mess around in the damp much. Also on Droop Mountain is the deposit of Droop sandstone, white and fine. I am told this sandstone is peculiar to this region, stretching to Elk Mountain on the north and to Spring Creek Mountain to the south.

On Droop Mountain November 6, 1863, was fought the most important

me now I must be polite to company in the county.

My father said the name Droop was given because the eastern end of this great mountain had the appearance of drooping, or hanging or crouching from the open savannah country of the Big Levels of Greenbrier county. The earliest record of the name I have been able to find is the court records of Botetourt county along about 1775, where reference was made to one Charles Kennison, a juror, who lived beyond Droop Mountain. In that day, the line between Botetourt and Augusta county crossed Greenbrier river just above the mouth of Swago.

mountains on the east and the lofty
Back Alleghanies on the west and the
north.

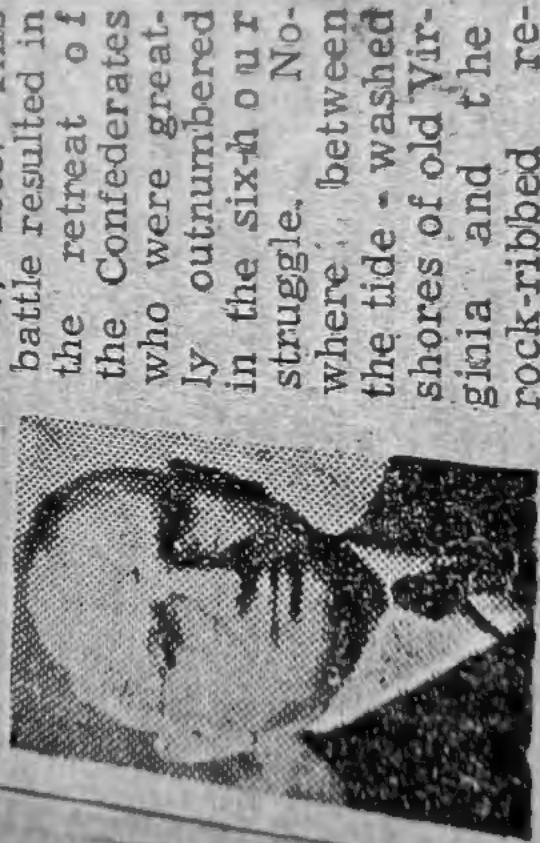
Hillsboro nestles in the Little Levels;
there John McNeel and the Kennison
Brothers settled in the uneasy 1760's;
there was established in 1843 the
Academy, a preparatory branch of the
University of Virginia; there in 1793
was organized Oak Grove Church,—
sturdy and strong to this day; there
was built during the Revoution the
White Pole Meeting House, one of the
first places of public worship on the
Western Waters.

Just north of Millpoint is Stephens

By SHIRLEY DONNELLY

Yesterday I left off with the promise that today you would get some Civil War stories to read in this column.

The biggest battle of the war in West Virginia was fought at Droop Mountain on Nov. 6, 1863. This



battle resulted in the retreat of the Confederates who were greatly outnumbered in the six-hour struggle. Nowhere between the tide-washed shores of old Virginia and the rock-ribbed regions of the Alleghenies were there to be found more loyal southerners. To this day the county is overwhelmingly Democratic.

Capt. D. A. Stofer mustered a company of Confederates at Huntersville and it was subsequently attached to the 31st Virginia Infantry Regiment. The first com-

HUGH P. MCGLAUGHLIN was born in Highland Co., Va., Aug. 1, 1843. His family moved to Pocahontas when this lad was but nine. Came the Civil War and the 18-year-old enlisted in Co. "I", 25th Virginia Infantry. Throughout the war he served the Confederacy. He was captured and taken first to Point Lookout, and from there to Elmira, N. Y.

He had one brother in the service who was also taken prisoner of war. This unfortunate brother died of scurvy in the Elmira prisoner-of-war camp. He died Nov. 11, 1864. After the war's close, Hugh McGlaughlin came back to his home in the hill country of Pocahontas and went to farming up there close to Huntersville.

WHEN HE WAS 30 years old Daniel A. Stofer moved to Pocahontas. He hailed from Augusta Co., Va., where he was born at

Middlebrook on May 5, 1821. He

THE EARLY COMER to Pocahontas was Jacob Warwick. He lived was the part of county that is now included Pocahontas. He had a whole lot of Negro slaves. One slave known as "Old Ben" and he ran the Warwick farm. The place was called the Clover farm. When Warwick and "Old Ben" were out salting cattle on the hills they were ambushed by Yankees. Warwick's horse was shot and the men beat it to the house and hid there in safety. Then they got the rest of the slaves to a refuge in the hills until the Yankees had moved on. Warwick didn't stop until he got to the Jacksons River in Vir-

THE CIVIL WAR in 1861 was a hard thing had to be done. The county records because the Yankees would burn the path of the contending armies. The county seat was at Little Level and William Curry was in a dual status as clerk and circuit clerk. He was a Yankee and the Yankees were coming in the armies of aliens and at anything. So did the court, who ordered to get a move on and the records where they were safe.

Pocahontas the good people much dread of the Yankees as their enemies. The tomahawk of the Yankees. Consequent upon the court's order to move the records to a place of safety Curry carried them to the Little Level down the river of Joel Hill down

the Little Level. Curry carried the records until Jan. 1862. Curry carried the records to a place of safety. Curry carried the records to a place of safety. Curry carried the records to a place of safety.

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rock-ribbed regions of the Alleghenies were there to be found more loyal southerners. To this day the county is overwhelmingly Democratic.

Capt. D. A. Stofer mustered a company of Confederates at Huntersville and it was subsequently attached to the 31st Virginia Infantry Regiment. The first company of volunteers in Pocahontas was that of Capt. Andrew G. McNeel. It was organized at Little Levels. This was early in the spring of 1861 when the first news of the war was heard in Pocahontas. That first company was disbanded that fall because arms failed to reach them. Arms were shipped from Richmond but were copped off somewhere along the route.

Third company of Pocahontas volunteers to line up was the one commanded by Captain Arbogast of Greenbank, up there where the big astronomical ear is today being erected to listen to the music of the spheres. Arbogast's Company was attached to the 31st Virginia Infantry Regiment. Captain Arbogast seems to have been on the ball and was promoted to major in the regiment. One Pocahontas officer by the name of Lt. H. M. Poague was killed in action at

HUGH P. McGLAUGHLIN born in Highland Co., Va., Aug. 1, 1843. His family moved to Pocahontas when this lad was nine. Came the Civil War the 18-year-old enlisted in Co. 25th Virginia Infantry. Throughout the war he served the Confederacy. He was captured taken first to Point Lookout, from there to Elmira, N. Y. He had one brother in the service who was also taken prisoner of war. This unfortunate brother died of scurvy in the prisoner-of-war camp. He was released Nov. 11, 1864. After the close, Hugh McGlaughlin came back to his home in the hills of Pocahontas and was farming up there close to H. ville.

WHEN HE WAS 30 years Daniel A. Stofer moved to Pocahontas. He hailed from Highland Co., Va., where he was

Middlebrook on May 5, 1846, signed up for service in the Mexican War with Mexico and served under Gen. Zachary ("Old Red Rover") Taylor, destined to become our 12th President. He volunteered in 1846 for Mexican War service.

When the Civil War broke out he volunteered in the Confederate native state of Virginia. His brothers joined the army, too. One never returned. Daniel A. Stofer was at the front at the right time and was commissioned a captain.

This intrepid soldier received five separate wounds in the Mexican War, all five wounds inflicted in less than one minute! One wound was in his chest, two were in his breast, two were in his left leg. He was struck in the left leg, the bone was broken in two places. One of the two wounds entered his breast and